



City of Terre Haute  
Office of the Mayor

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# PRESS RELEASE

## Mayor Bennett Hosts Children's Earth Day Extravaganza

Terre Haute, IN- Mayor Duke Bennett has partnered with Indiana State University and the Vigo County Public Library to invite children grades K-5 for an evening of hands-on, environmental learning at the City's first Earth Day Extravaganza. The event will take place on Earth Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4PM-6PM at the Vigo County Public Library and is free of charge.

The Children's Earth Day Extravaganza will feature arts and crafts, games, and other interactive educational booths, all with learning outcomes of environmental stewardship and conservation.

Holly Curtsinger, VCPL Youth Services Coordinator and co-organizer of the event, said, "The VCPL is truly a place to learn, connect and grow; programs like this one are a great way to highlight the educational resources for families and children that are available locally."

Mayor Bennett continues to emphasize the importance of being environmentally responsible to raise the overall quality of life for Terre Haute residents. "We are doing more than ever to encourage citizens to live well, which includes taking care of our environment. We are adding more trails, continuing to plant more trees, and are putting the final touches on the new Maple Avenue Nature Park. Getting the kids involved instills these values at an early age and furthers our commitment to a better Terre Haute."

Curtsinger agrees involving youth is instrumental to long-term environmental awareness. "By teaching children more about Earth Day and the impact our actions have on our environment, we hope to inspire a generation of conscientious minds that will look for innovative ways to contribute to a greener planet. We are happy to collaborate with our community partners, Indiana State University, and Mayor Duke Bennett's Office to make Children's Earth Day a successful initiative."

This event is organized by Mayor Bennett's Office and the VCPL, with assistance from ISU Institute for Community Sustainability, ISU Recycling Center, ISU Science Education Office, and ISU Center for Bat Research, Outreach, and Conservation.

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The City of Terre Haute is home to over 60,000 residents, 23 parks, and 36 miles of trails and greenways. Terre Haute received the Community of the Year Designation by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce in 2010 and has been named a Tree City USA for 16 consecutive years. To learn more about Terre Haute, visit [TerreHaute.In.Gov](http://TerreHaute.In.Gov).